

MR. KERR has gone East, and before leaving gave

Notice to Quit

ALL

Remnants AND Oddments IN OUR LARGE STOCK

At Our Queen Street Store.

FOR THE PAST WEEK

Our staff has been kept
Busy measuring and
Gathering together all
Odd lines

AND TODAY, Monday, August 27,

We commence a

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Space is more valuable to us
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RACES IN THE SCHOOLS

Babel of Tongues to
Deal With.

PROFESSOR SCOTT TALKS

Interesting Discussion of Educational
Matters by the Head of
the High School.

Prof. M. M. Scott, of the High School, spoke most interestingly yesterday regarding the difficulties encountered by the teachers here in handling this "Babel of tongues," and the practical obstacles in the way of reaching any standard. "Personally," said Professor Scott, "I am astonished they do so well. Teachers in the States never have to handle such raw material, but, from long and patient labor in this particular field, our teachers have actually reduced this condition of things and brought it down to a minimum. In this respect, they are better able to grapple with the subject today than would be a fresh teacher in the field, unaware of the peculiarities of each and every nationality in our schools. The Hawaiian, as you know, has but twelve sounds in his language. When the first missionaries transmitted, or gave them letters, he took the vowel sounds. There are few consonants in their language, making it a complete phonetic mystery. It is like a gathering of the waters. In fact it is not in accord with any other known language; it is not cognate.

"Now, here we can see some of the difficulties teachers in our schools have to contend with; because, practically, a language of a whole people has had to be changed—peacefully, it is true, for they recognize the fact, as do we, that the change will be the better for their children and their children's children. The difficulty that confronts these children is this: Having to learn a language before they can be instructed to any extent in that language. Right here, in the High School, we find that state of affairs constantly. We have to really prepare them, even when they come from other schools. Of course we have a department for that very purpose. Each year, however, conditions are growing better, and in a few years this state of affairs will be a thing of the past.

"Personally, I feel a regret to see the language of a people dying out. It foreshadows the decadence of the race. It becomes degraded and the language goes down and is finally relegated to the antiquarian and the philologist to study. The Hawaiians are a noble people and I find something pathetic about it. The Hawaiian having but twelve sounds—and of course every sound pronounced has a muscle sound, it takes him a long while to acquire our many consonants; especially the 't' and the 'th.' Voltaire made fun of the English for their manner of 'cutting their words in two,' but the Frenchman who has an 'h' in his language has let it become a fossil and he leaps right over it.

"As the Chinese have no 'r' in their language they substitute an 'l,' as, for instance, in the word 'rice,' which they pronounce 'lice.' It is not so singular either. The Japanese have no 'l,' so they use the 'r' in its place. Then the Portuguese have peculiarities equally marked; making it very difficult for the teacher new to our polyglot race to make any headway until she has become accustomed to all these oddities of tongue—for dialects they are not.

"Simplicity forms the key-note of the Hawaiian character, and as a race they are most lovable. Voltaire says, 'the alphabet was the origin of all man's knowledge, and of all his errors,' but the system in vogue on our Islands will ultimately merge into one of the different factions, or elements, resulting from the mixture of races and produce from the conglomerate mass a perfect unity or whole."

DR. NOBLITT ASKS FOR A LICENSE

Applies for Writ of Mandamus
To Compel Its Issuance.

Dr. Noblitt, whose license to practice medicine was taken away over a year ago, and who has been before the public since that time by reason of prosecutions for practicing without a license, applied yesterday to the Circuit Court for a writ of mandamus to compel Treasurer Lansing to let him return to the fold.

In his petition Dr. Noblitt states that he was deprived of his license last year and that although he has made several applications for a reissuance of it, they have been denied. He alleges that he is wrongfully deprived of the right to carry on his profession and earn a livelihood.

The petition was presented to Judge Humphreys late in the afternoon, and he issued an order directing Treasurer Lansing to show cause within five days why the license should not be issued.

Dr. Noblitt's case has attracted more or less attention for a long time. A year or more ago a fakir came to the city to sell patent medicines, and Dr. Noblitt associated himself with him. The man used to hold street corner meetings with concerts and other accompanying features, and his transactions created something of a stir about the city. For joining fortunes with this man Dr. Noblitt's license was taken from him by the Board of Medical Examiners. Throughout the past year he has continued to practice medicine just as hitherto, and he was arrested for so doing and his case is still pending in the Circuit Court. Recently he appeared before the Board of Health to secure a reissuance of his license, and still more recently a petition was presented to Treasurer Lansing signed by upwards of a hundred of his friends. His efforts have been unavailing so far, and he has taken this latest method to secure attention to his requests.

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M. P. ROBINSON,
Treasurer.
Honolulu, Sept. 8, 1900.

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